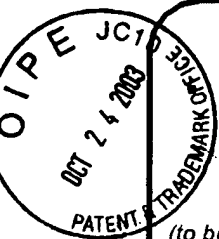


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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/620,324		
	Filing Date	July 14, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Robert Charles Downs	
	Group Art Unit	3652	
	Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	5	Attorney Docket Number	36-000410US

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PTO-1449 form <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below): receipt acknowledgment postcard
Authorization to Charge Deposit Account Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0893 for any additional fees associated with this paper or during the pendency of this application, including any extensions of time for consideration of the documents enclosed.		
Remarks		

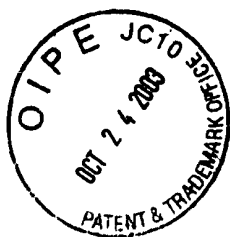
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Christopher C. Sappenfield, Reg. No. 45,073, Quine Intellectual Property Law Group P.C.
Signature	<i>Chris Sappenfield</i>
Date	October 21, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

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Signature	<i>Deborah Berwick</i>		



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QUINE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP, P.C.

By Deborah Berwick
Deborah Berwick

Attorney Docket No. 36-000410US
Client Ref. No. P0023US10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Robert Charles Downs, et al.

Application No.: 10/620,324

Filed: July 14, 2003

For: GRIPPING MECHANISMS,
APPARATUS, AND METHODS

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 3652

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 and
§ 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on the attached PTO-1449 form are being called to the attention of the Examiner to make of record references cited in parent application USSN 09/793,254 (now U.S. Patent 6,592,324) filed February 26, 2001. Copies of references cited in parent application USSN 09/793,254 (now U.S. Patent 6,592,324) filed February 26, 2001 are not provided. However, the applicants will gladly provide fresh copies of any references requested by the Examiner. U.S. Patent 6,592,324 is also cited on the attached PTO-1449 form and a copy thereof is enclosed herewith.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0893. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher C. Sappenfield
Reg. No. 45,073

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CCS:db

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Substitute for form 1449A-B/PTO

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/620,324
Filing Date	July 14, 2003
First Named Inventor	Robert Charles Downs
Group Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	36-000410US
Date Submitted	October 21, 2003

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Use as many sheets as necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appeal
		Number	Kind Code (if known)			
	1	4,465,416		Burkhalter et al.	08-14-1984	
	2	4,662,811		Hayden	05-05-1987	
	3	4,714,865		Chin et al.	12-22-1987	
	4	4,715,637		Hosoda et al.	12-29-1987	
	5	4,894,103		Bailey	01-16-1990	
	6	4,923,054		Ohtani et al.	05-08-1990	
	7	4,944,650		Matsumoto et al.	07-31-1990	
	8	4,952,115		Ohkase	08-28-1990	
	9	4,975,484		Nomaru et al.	12-11-1990	
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	14	5,162,047		Wada et al.	11-10-1992	
	15	5,192,106		Kaufman	03-09-1993	
	16	5,201,501		Fassler	04-13-1993	
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	25	5,697,480		Herbermann et al.	12-16-1997	
	26	5,700,046		Van Doren et al.	12-23-1997	
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number	10/620,324
Filing Date	July 14, 2003
First Named Inventor	Robert Charles Downs
Group Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	36-000410US
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	27	5,778,742		Stuart	07-141998	
	28	5,810,935		Lee et al.	09-22-1998	
	29	5,863,086		Christenson	01-26-1999	
	30	5,870,488		Rush et al.	02-09-1999	
	31	5,871,248		Okogbaa et al.	02-16-1999	
	32	5,944,476		Bacchi et al.	08-31-1999	
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	38	6,409,241		Hughes et al.	06-25-2002	
	39	6,474,712		Govzman et al.	11-05-2002	
	40	6,592,324	B2	Downs, et al.	07-15-2003	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		Office	Number	Kind Code (if known)				
	41	GB	2,185,458	A	Mars Incorporated	07-22-1987		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T

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